



SC Annual School
Report Card
Summary

East Cooper Montessori Charter School
CHARLESTON
Grades: 1-8 Enrollment: 262
Principal: Jody Swanigan
Superintendent: Dr. Nancy J. McGinley
Board Chair: Mrs. Cindy Bohn Coats

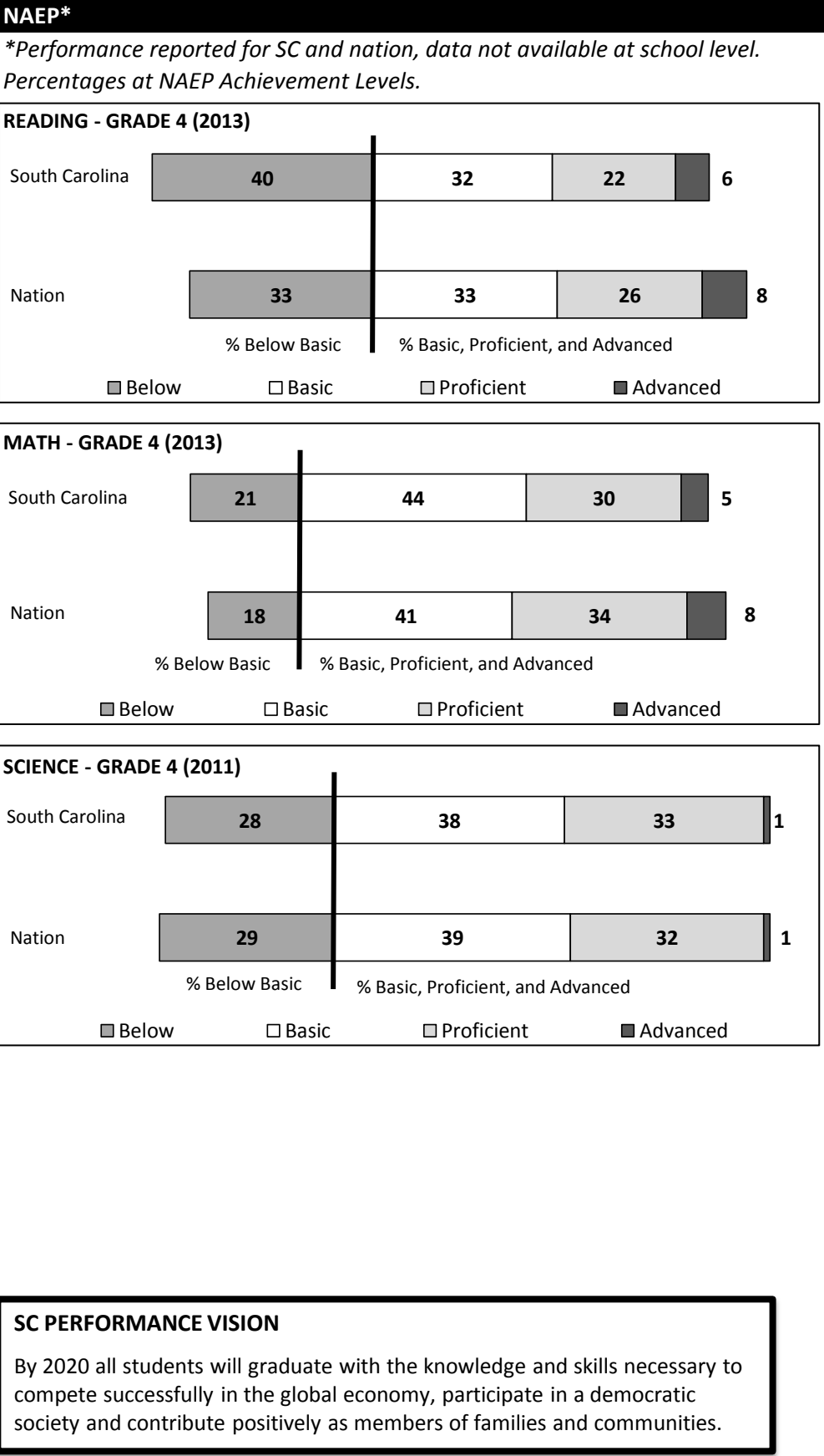
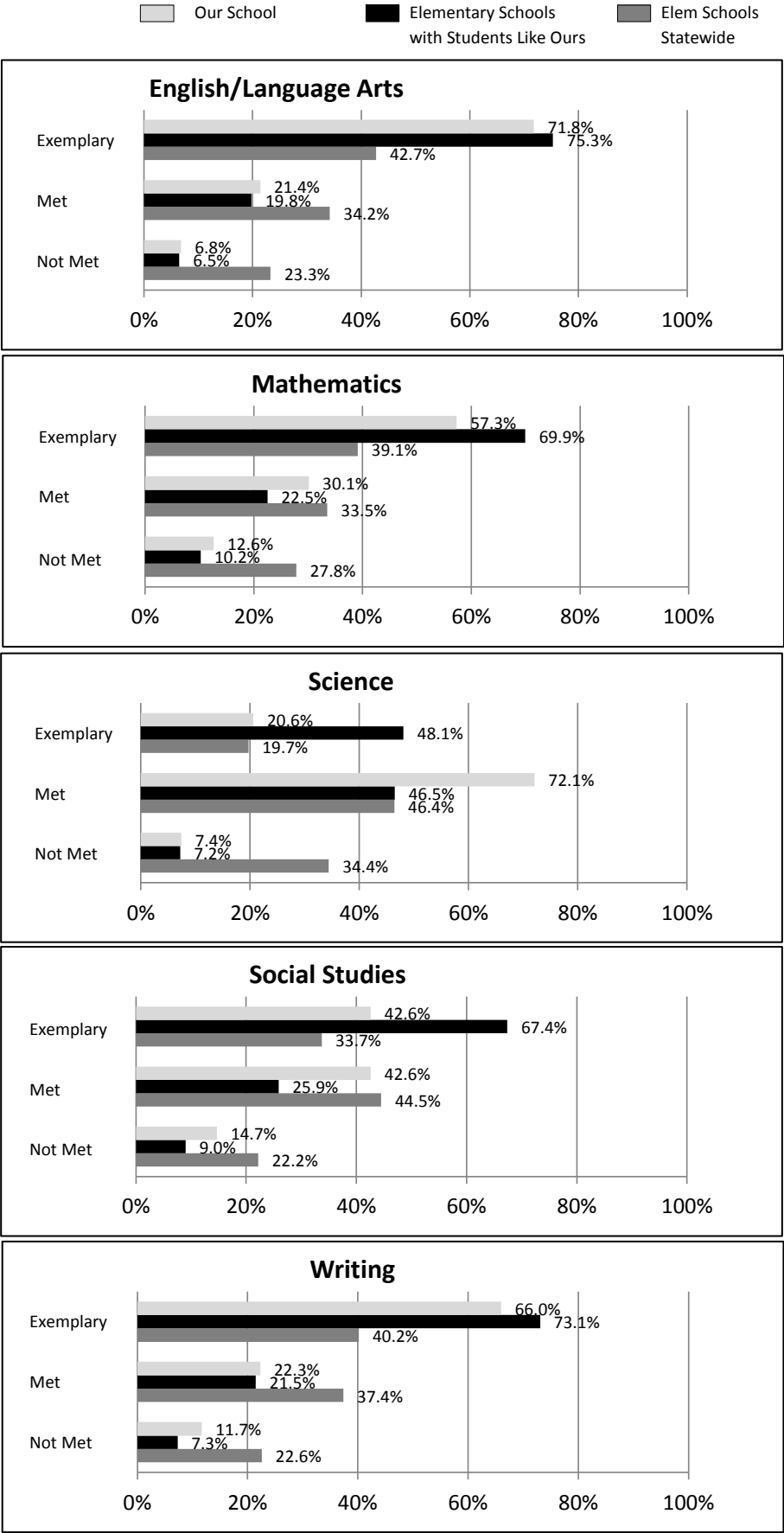
PERFORMANCE		Comprehensive detail, including definitions of ratings, performance criteria, and explanations of status, is available on www.ed.sc.gov and www.eoc.sc.gov as well as school and school district websites. Printed versions are available from school districts upon request.					
YEAR	ABSOLUTE RATING	GROWTH RATING	PALMETTO GOLD AND SILVER AWARD		ESEA/FEDERAL ACCOUNTABILITY RATING SYSTEM		
			General Performance	Closing the Gap	ESEA Grade	Accountability Indicator	
2014	Excellent	Good	TBD	TBD	A	N/A	
2013	Excellent	Good	GOLD	N/A	A	N/A	
2012	Excellent	Excellent	GOLD	N/A	A	N/A	

ABSOLUTE RATINGS OF ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS WITH STUDENTS LIKE OURS*

EXCELLENT	GOOD	AVERAGE	BELOW AVERAGE	AT-RISK
4	0	0	0	0

* Ratings are calculated with data available by 04/27/2015. Schools with Students Like Ours are Elementary Schools with Poverty Indices of no more than 5% above or below the index for this school.

SC PASS PERFORMANCE



Abbreviations Key

N/A-Not Applicable	N/AV-Not Available	N/C-Not Collected	N/R-Not Reported	I/S-Insufficient Sample	TBD-To Be Determined
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East Cooper Montessori Charter School
CHARLESTON
SCHOOL PROFILE

	Our School	Change from Last Year	Elementary Schools with Students Like Ours	Median Elementary Schools
Students (n = 262)				
Retention rate	0.4%	No change	0.3%	1.0%
Attendance rate	97.6%	Up from 96.8%	97.4%	96.5%
Served by gifted and talented program	41.6%	Up from 40.4%	33.0%	7.3%
With disabilities	9.7%	Down from 11.6%	5.4%	12.5%
Older than usual for grade	0.0%	No change	0.1%	1.8%
Out-of-school suspensions or expulsions for violent and/or criminal offenses	0.0%	No change	0.0%	0.0%
Teachers (n = 18)				
Teachers with advanced degrees	44.4%	Up from 31.6%	64.5%	62.3%
Continuing contract teachers	61.1%	Up from 57.9%	76.6%	81.2%
Teachers returning from previous year	90.4%	Down from 94.9%	89.9%	88.4%
Teacher attendance rate	97.0%	Up from 93.1%	96.2%	95.3%
Average teacher salary*	\$44,121	Up 3.9%	\$47,946	\$47,902
Classes not taught by highly qualified teachers	27.4%	Down from 35.2%	12.5%	0.0%
Professional development days/teacher	9.2 days	Down from 11.2 days	8.9 days	10.9 days
School				
Principal's years at school	11.0	Up from 10.0	10.5	4.0
Student-teacher ratio in core subjects	22.5 to 1	Down from 23.2 to 1	22.3 to 1	19.9 to 1
Prime instructional time	N/R	N/A	91.6%	90.7%
Opportunities in the arts	Fair	Down from Good	Good	Good
SACS accreditation	No	No change	No	Yes
Parents attending conferences	100.0%	No change	100.0%	100.0%
Character development program	Excellent	No change	Excellent	Excellent
Dollars spent per pupil**	\$8,719	Up 1.3%	\$9,209	\$7,680
Percent of expenditures for instruction**	54.8%	Down from 66.0%	64.9%	66.8%
Percent of expenditures for teacher salaries**	54.6%	Up from 54.0%	64.5%	66.0%
ESEA composite index score	99.9	Up from 98.5	100.0	85.7

* Length of contract = 185+ days.
**Prior year audited financial data available.

EVALUATION RESULTS

	Teachers	Students*	Parents*
Number of surveys returned	14	35	47
Percent satisfied with learning environment	100.0%	85.7%	87.2%
Percent satisfied with social and physical environment	100.0%	85.3%	89.4%
Percent satisfied with school-home relations	100.0%	77.2%	87.2%

*Only students at the highest elementary school grade level at this school and their parents were included.

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REPORT OF PRINCIPAL AND SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT COUNCIL

Guided by the principles of Dr. Maria Montessori, East Cooper Montessori Charter School (ECMCS) offers an authentic Montessori education to elementary and middle school students in the Charleston County public school system. ECMCS is the only public charter school in the state of South Carolina serving students in both an elementary environment and middle school environment and has become a model school for new Montessori Schools.

The mission of ECMCS, in part, is to provide a rigorous Montessori education that guides children toward academic excellence and a lifelong love of learning. The school fulfills this aspect of its mission by offering an enriched and cultural curriculum that incorporates and extends district, state and national standards. Students develop their abilities by posing questions, designing investigations, and gaining skills necessary to express and pursue their own research interests. Scientific and mathematical aptitudes, appreciation of history and timelines, literacy across disciplines, and the development of a student’s humanity toward the local and global community are all part of the curriculum at ECMCS.

The second part of the school’s mission is to encourage stewardship of the greater community. Starting in the first grade, all of our students devote at least 20 hours to an individual community service project called the Yearlong Peace Project. The student-led projects have led to students becoming involved with non-profit organizations lasting beyond their time with us and even on to the formation of their own non-profit organizations. Parent volunteerism is an integral part of the success of ECMCS and sets the example for students. Parents served nearly 6,000 hours on the school board and committees, helping out in the classrooms and researching community resources to support the school's mission.

The consistent and professional leadership of the Governing Board and school administration remains a cornerstone of our success. The school, like all public schools, must continue to do more with less. Our fiscal conservatism and solid strategic planning has allowed the school to partner with CCSD implement its plans of expansion to address the yearly extensive wait list of students wanting to attend ECMCS.

The 2013-2014 school-year was filled with many significant accomplishments. The school was again awarded the Palmetto Goal Award and in addition has formed a partnership with CCSD to expand Montessori seats in District 2. The school continues to offer gifted education in an immersion setting instead of a pull-out model. All ECMCS lead teachers are required to be endorsed in Gifted Education in addition to being state certified in the area of instruction as well as Montessori certified. The school’s greatest success is seen in the success of its students.

Jody Swanigan, Principal Douglas Stalnaker, Governing Board Chair